



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

REGULATIONS FOR

Accessible Parking Requirements

CITY OF SAN DIEGO DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

1222 FIRST AVENUE, MS 301, SAN DIEGO, CA 92101

CALL (619) 446-5300 FOR APPOINTMENTS AND (619) 446-6250 FOR INFORMATION

INFORMATION
BULLETIN

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This Information Bulletin covers requirements under the California Code of Regulations (Title 24) [2001 California Building Code Chapter 11B] for Accessible Parking standards for commercial buildings and public accommodations.

For additional parking regulations please refer to chapter 14 of the Municipal Code for the required number of parking spaces per the Land Development Code.

I. WHEN ACCESSIBLE PARKING IS REQUIRED

Accessible parking is required for all new parking lots and in existing parking lots when alterations, structural repairs, or additions are made. The following are examples of alterations that would trigger compliance:

1. Resurfacing of an existing parking lot.
2. Slurry-sealing operation when the existing lines are blacked-out and new lines are painted over
3. Realignment of existing striping.

Re-striping (repainting the existing lines) is considered to be maintenance and does not require the issuance of a Building Permit to verify compliance. However, it is the owner's responsibility to ensure that existing accessible parking spaces meet all applicable current access provisions.

II. WHERE ACCESSIBLE PARKING IS REQUIRED

Each lot or parking structure where parking is provided for the public as clients, guests or employees, shall provide accessible parking as outlined by these standards.

III. WHERE ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACES MUST BE LOCATED

Accessible parking spaces serving a particular building shall be located on the shortest accessible route of travel from adjacent parking to an accessible entrance.

In parking facilities that do not serve a particular building, accessible parking shall be located on the shortest accessible route of travel to an accessible pedestrian entrance of the parking facility.

In buildings with multiple accessible entrances with adjacent parking, accessible parking spaces shall be dispersed and located closest to the accessible entrances.

IV. SLOPE OF ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACES AND ACCESS AISLES

Surface slopes of accessible parking spaces and associated access aisles shall be the minimum possible and shall not exceed 1 unit vertical to 50 units horizontal (2 % slope) IN ANY DIRECTION. (Sec.1129B4.3 & Fig.11B-18A through C).

V. ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACE REQUIREMENTS

The following is a table to determine the number of accessible parking spaces required:

Total Number of Parking Spaces in Lot or Garage	Minimum Number of Accessible Spaces Required
1-25.....	1
26-50.....	2
51-75.....	3
76-100.....	4
101-150.....	5
151-200.....	6
201-300.....	7
301-400.....	8
401-500.....	9
501-1,000.....	2% of Total
1,001 & over	20 plus 1 for each of 100, or fraction thereof over 1001

Important: One in every eight accessible spaces, but not less than one, shall be served by an access aisle 96" wide minimum and shall be designated van accessible. All such spaces may be grouped on one level of a parking structure.

When less than five regular parking spaces are provided, one shall be 14 feet wide and lined to provide a 9 foot parking area and a 5 foot loading and unloading area. However, there is no requirement that the space be reserved exclusively or identified for use by persons with disabilities only.

A higher percentage is required for medical care outpatient facilities as follows:

1. 10% of total number of parking provided for outpatient facilities.
2. 20% of total number of parking provided for facilities that specialize in treatment or services for persons with mobility impairments.

VI. ARRANGEMENT OF ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACES

Access aisle must be provided on the **passenger side** of the vehicle for single spaces when the vehicle is going forward into the parking space. When more than one accessible space is provided, the access aisle can be located in the center between the accessible spaces. Access aisles must always be provided on the passenger side for van-accessible spaces. The words **NO PARKING** shall be painted on the ground within each loading and unloading access aisle. This notice shall be painted in white letters no less than 12 inches(154mm) high and located so that it is visible to traffic enforcement officials.

(Sections 1129B.4.1 & 1129B.4.2). In each parking area, a bumper or curb shall be provided and located to prevent encroachment of cars over the required width of walkways. The space shall be so located that persons with disabilities are not compelled to wheel or walk behind parked cars other than their own. Pedestrian ways that are accessible to people with disabilities shall be provided from each such parking space to related facilities, including curb cuts or ramps as needed. Ramps shall not encroach into any parking space. See Figures for illustrations.

VII. IDENTIFICATION OF ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACES

Each parking space reserved for persons with physical disabilities shall be identified as follows:

1. A reflectorized sign permanently posted immediately adjacent to and visible from each stall or space, consisting of a profile view of a wheelchair with occupant in white on dark blue background. The sign shall not be smaller than 70 square inches in area and, when in a path of travel, shall be posted at a minimum height of 80 inches from the bottom of the sign to the parking space finished grade. Signs may also be centered on the wall at the interior end of the parking space at a minimum height of 36 inches from the parking space finished grade, ground or sidewalk. Van accessible spaces shall have an additional sign stating "Van-Accessible" mounted below the symbol of accessibility. See page 4 for official symbol.

2. An additional sign shall also be posted in a conspicuous place at each entrance to off-street parking facilities, or immediately adjacent to and visible from each stall or space. The sign shall not be less than 17 inches by 22 inches in size with lettering not less than 1 inch in height, which clearly and conspicuously states the following: **"Unauthorized vehicles parked in designated accessible spaces not displaying distinguishing placards or license plates issued for persons with disabilities may be towed away at owner's expense. Towed vehicles may be reclaimed at _____ or by telephoning (619) 531-2844."** (Blank spaces are to be filled in with appropriate information as a permanent part of the sign.)

3. The surface of each accessible parking space or stall shall have a surface identification duplicating either of the following schemes:

- a. By outlining or painting the stall or space in blue and outlining on the ground in the stall or space in white or suitable contrasting color a profile view depicting a wheelchair with occupant; or
- b. By outlining a profile view of a wheelchair with occupant in white on blue background. The profile view shall be located so that it is visible to a traffic enforcement officer when a vehicle is properly parked in the space and shall be 36 inches high by 36 inches wide. See page 4 for official symbol.

VIII. Parking Structures

All entrances to and vertical clearance within parking structures shall have a minimum **vertical clearance of 8 feet 2 inches** where required for accessibility to and from accessible parking spaces.

IX. PASSENGER DROP-OFF AND LOADING ZONES

1. **Location:** When provided, passenger drop-off and loading zones shall be located on accessible route of travel.

2. **Size:** Where provided, one passenger drop-off and loading zone shall provide an access aisle at least 60 inches wide and 20 feet long adjacent and parallel to the vehicle pull-up space.

3. **Slope:** Such zones shall be located on a surface with a slope not exceeding 1 vertical in 50 horizontal. If there are curbs between the access aisle and the vehicle pull-up space, a curb ramp shall be provided.

4. **Vertical Clearance:** Provide minimum vertical clearance of 9 feet 6 inches at accessible loading zones and along at least one vehicle access route to such areas from site entrances and exits.

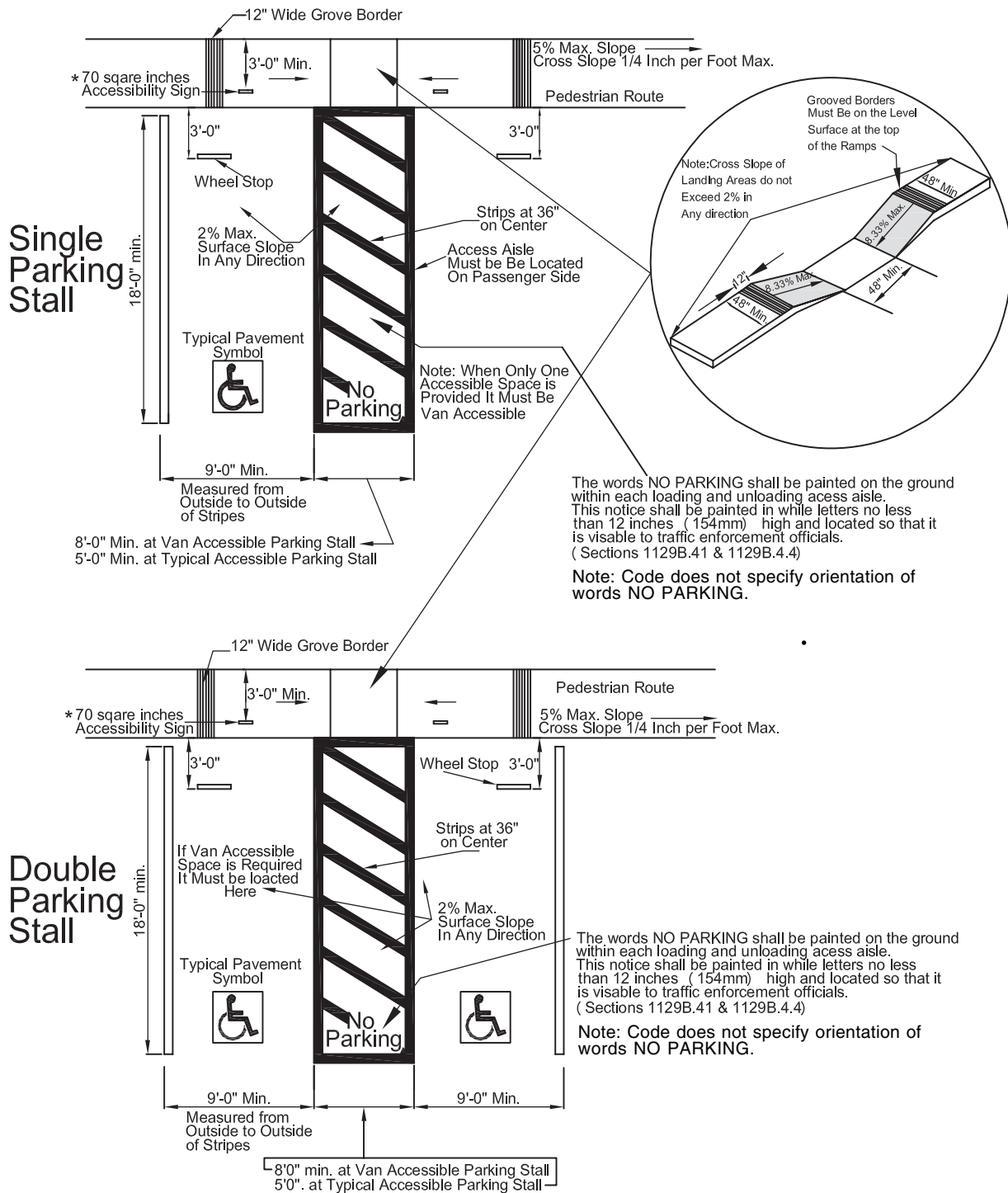
5. **Valet Parking:** Valet parking facilities shall provide a passenger loading zone complying with requirements above and shall be located on an accessible route to the entrance of the facility.

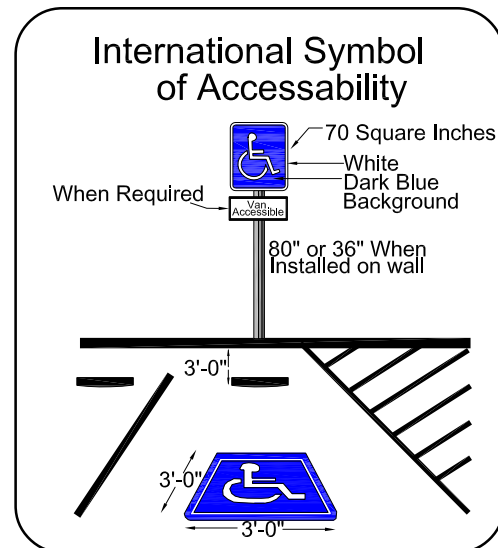
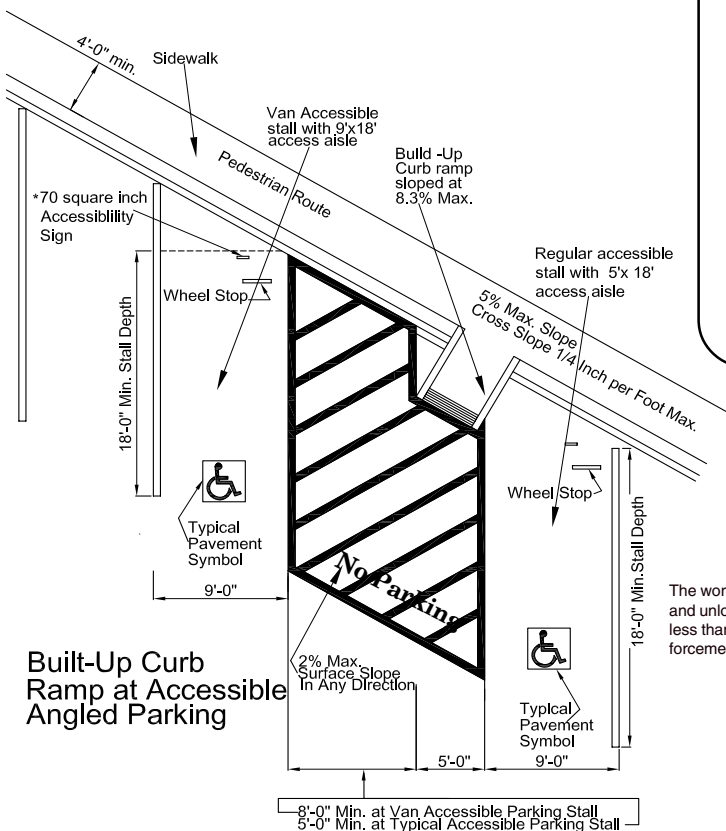
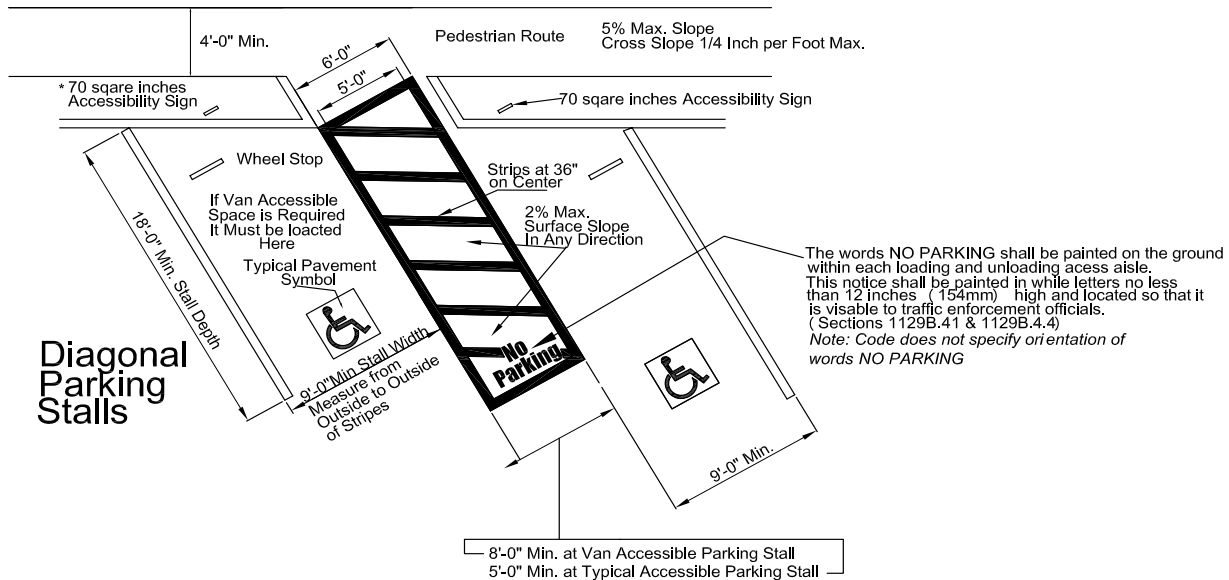
Accessible Parking Sign Installed At Each Space



Note: area of sign to be a minimum of 70 square inches. Designate for "Van Accessible" where appropriate place at each entrance to off-street parking facilities, or immediately adjacent to and visible from each stall or space.

The following figures illustrate the size requirements for accessible parking space





The words **NO PARKING** shall be painted on the ground within each loading and unloading access aisle. This notice shall be painted in white letters no less than 12 inches (154mm) high and located so that it is visible to traffic enforcement officials. *The Code does not specify orientation.*